



This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

- + *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.
- + *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.
- + *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.
- + *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at <http://books.google.com/>

chapter for Tax Payers - 1861

US 1353.10.125

HARVARD COLLEGE
LIBRARY



FROM THE LIBRARY OF
FRANKLIN P. RICE
of Worcester

The Gift of
MRS. MARY B. RICE

1922

A
COMPREHENSIVE CHAPTER
FOR
THE TAX PAYERS
—OF—
WORCESTER.

BY A CITIZEN.

"What pearls and rubies does the wine disclose,
Making the purse poor to enrich the nose!
How does it nurse disease, infect the heart,
Drawing some sickness into every part!"

WORCESTER:
1861.

us 13531.10.195

✓



From the library of
Franklin P. Rice

W

Written by Clark Jellson

of his Jellson Family History
1879.

A CHAPTER FOR TAX PAYERS.

THE number of different persons arrested and committed to the Watch House annually in the city of Worcester, for the crime of Drunkenness alone, is not less than five hundred, as will be seen by the following statement, taken from the reports of the several city marshals for the years herein designated :

Year.						Number Arrested.
1855,	-	-	-	-	-	496
1856,	-	-	-	-	-	599
1857,	-	-	-	-	-	605
1858,	-	-	-	-	-	516
1859,	-	-	-	-	-	510

By this estimate, which is entirely reliable, it appears that the average number for each year is about five hundred and forty-five. The following calculation however, is based upon five hundred annually, which will give ample margin to satisfy the most skeptical mind that these statements are candidly and fairly made.

While there are five hundred persons who are arrested for being intoxicated, there are five hundred other persons who are liable to arrest for the same offence, but in some way evade the

police and go free, which makes the number of those who annually, by the voluntary use of intoxicating liquor, subject themselves to the penalty of the law, for the crime of drunkenness, to be one thousand.

It does not seem probable that out of every six persons in the city of Worcester who are daily in the habit of drinking intoxicating beverages, there is one who gets drunk enough, once a year, to subject himself to arrest; but facts are ample to show that where there is one person who gets drunk once a year so as to subject himself to arrest, there are at least five habitual drinkers. The number of drunkards, as before stated, being one thousand, and the number of habitual drinkers five thousand, there are in this city, including those from other towns who come here to buy by the glass, six thousand persons who use intoxicating liquor daily, one thousand of which lie in the gutter at least once a year, five hundred out of that number being arrested and imprisoned for the crime of drunkenness.

Every habitual drinker consumes at least two glasses of liquor per day, making twelve thousand glasses per day for the whole number,

which being multiplied by three hundred and sixty-five shows the number of glasses for one year to be *four million three hundred and eighty thousand*. The average price paid for liquor, by the glass, according to the testimony given in the courts, is not less than six cents, making the amount paid in a single year, in this city, for that which only adds to human misery, to be *two hundred and sixty-two thousand eight hundred dollars*; consequently, if the sale of intoxicating liquor as a beverage, in this city, had been discontinued ten years ago, and the money which has been spent for the same paid into the city treasury, the city might now look with some degree of pride and satisfaction upon the snug little sum of *two million six hundred and twenty-eight thousand dollars* ! But instead of having this amount in the treasury, it has been paid to a class of heartless fiends, whose success in business depends upon the depravity of the community in which and upon whom they live ; the best index to their prosperity being the deserted mother and homeless child.

The above named sum, if properly disbursed, would do much for the city of Worcester and its inhabitants. It would pay the entire city tax

for the last ten years, of one million three hundred and ninety-two thousand one hundred and twenty dollars. It would bring pure water into the city from Henshaw Pond, construct the necessary reservoirs and fountains, at a cost of five hundred thousand dollars, giving employment to hundreds of laboring men, at a reasonable compensation. It would pay one hundred thousand dollars for building a horse railroad from Lincoln Square to the foot of Leicester Hill. It would pay the city debt of one hundred thousand dollars, without appealing to the financial skill of the mayor or aldermen. It would build ten churches at a cost of ten thousand dollars each. It would build ten school-houses at a cost of ten thousand dollars each. It would pay for building the alms-house, and the entire support of all the paupers of the city for the last ten years at a cost of one hundred thousand dollars.

And last, but not least, it would adorn and decorate the Davis Park with fountains and statuary, and lay out building lots all round it, at a cost of fifty thousand dollars.

After making all these improvements, and the above mentioned outlays therefor, there would

still remain in the treasury one hundred and eighty-five thousand eight hundred and eighty dollars, which might be invested in treasury notes for the vigorous prosecution of the present war against disloyalty and rebellion.

In making the above estimate, those persons who are arrested for disorderly conduct, disturbing the peace, and assault and battery, numbering several hundred each year, nearly all of whom being more or less intoxicated, are not counted ; therefore the broadest liberality has been shown in collecting and placing these facts before the public.

If there are any who feel that Worcester ought not to be held responsible for the acts of those who belong to other towns, although they buy, drink, get drunk, and are arrested here, let them apply these facts, for their own gratification, to the whole county, and imagine for a moment what two million six hundred and twenty-eight thousand dollars would do by way of erecting court houses and jails, and building roads and bridges.

It would pay the county debt of two hundred thousand dollars. It would build ten court houses at a cost of one hundred thousand dol-

lars each, and ten jails at fifty thousand dollars each. Three hundred thousand dollars may be expended on roads and bridges, and six hundred and twenty-eight thousand dollars in the county treasury.

Taking into consideration this vast amount of money expended directly to the injury of the race, the time lost in drunken revelry, the idleness and energy of the victims of intemperance, the poverty and ease and misery which threaten the moderate drinker, and the desolation of the drunkard's home, it is no wonder that we have a city debt without the means of decreasing it. It is no wonder that penurious economy is the element for reflection among all candidates for the office of mayor. It is no wonder that jails and houses of correction are filled to overflowing, or that honest men fail in respectable business, while the rumseller bids defiance to the laws, and grows rich at the expense of his victims.

Let the tax payers of Worcester reflect on these facts, and consider whether it would be better to prevent the open violation of the laws at the expense of a few thousand dollars, or to allow gamblers and rumsellers to control the city at the expense of millions.

This book should be returned
the Library on or before the last d
stamped below.

A fine of five cents a day is incurre
by retaining it beyond the specifie
time.

Please return promptly.

BOOK DUE - WID

APR 24 1979

6475672

lars each, and ten jails at fifty thousand dollars each. Three hundred thousand dollars might be expended on roads and bridges, and leave six hundred and twenty-eight thousand dollars in the county treasury.

Taking into consideration this vast amount of money expended directly to the injury of the race, the time lost in drunken revelry, the abated energy of the victims of intemperance, the disease and misery which threaten the moderate drinker, and the desolation of the drunkard's home, it is no wonder that we have a city debt without the means of decreasing it. It is no wonder that penurious economy is an element for reflection among all candidates for the office of mayor. It is no wonder that the jails and houses of correction are filled to overflowing, or that honest men fail in respectable business, while the rumseller bids defiance to the laws, and grows rich at the expense of his victim.

Let the tax payers of Worcester reflect upon these facts, and consider whether it would be better to prevent the open violation of law at the expense of a few thousand dollars, or to allow gamblers and rumsellers to control the city at the expense of millions.

This book should be returned to
the Library on or before the last date
stamped below.

A fine of five cents a day is incurred
by retaining it beyond the specified
time.

Please return promptly.

BOOK DUE - WND

APR 24 1979

6475672

US 13531.10.195

A comprehensive chapter for the tax

Widener Library

005471092



3 2044 086 375 920